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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/658,732	09/11/2000	Makoto Inai	P/1071-1118	4527

7590 05/31/2005

KEATING & BENNETT, LLP  
10400 EATON PLACE  
SUITE 312  
FAIRFAX, VA 22030

EXAMINER
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RICHARDS, N DREW

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2815

DATE MAILED: 05/31/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Inai

P/1071-1118

EXAMINER

Richards

ART UNIT	PAPER
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20050524

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**Commissioner for Patents**

A reply brief has been filed in this application on 5/17/05. This brief has been noted by the examiner and the case has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to N. Drew Richards whose telephone number is (571) 272-1736. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tom Thomas can be reached on (571) 272-1664. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

NDR

  
**GEORGE ECKERT**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**